

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
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DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
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USNMR SHAPE

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS PLOS EC
SUBJECT: FISHING LICENSES FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN VESSELS IN EC WATERS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 546 (B) EC BRUSSELS 137

1. RAYMOND SIMMONET, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FISHERY MATTERS
IN THE EC COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (DG I), INFORMED MISSION OFFICERS OF A PROPOSED
ADDITIONAL REFINEMENT IN THE PRIOR LICENSING MEASURES TO
CONTROL EASTERN EUROPEAN FISHERMEN IN THE NEW 200-MILE COM-
MUNITY FISHING ZONES (REF A). THE COMMISSION IS PROPOSING
THAT FOR THE INTERIM PERIOD RESPONSIBILITY FOR ISSUANCE OF
FISHING LICENSES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY FOR FISH STOCKS
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IN EACH DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EXPLORATION OF
THE SEA (ICES) ZONE BE GIVEN TO ONE COASTAL EC MEMBER STATE
REGARDLESS OF THE LOCATION OF THIS ZONE VIS-A-VIS THE 200 MILE
FISHING LIMITS OF THAT STATE OR OF ANY OTHER MEMBER STATE.
THUS, POLAND, THE USSR AND THE GDR IN ORDER TO TAKE THE ASSIGNED
QUOTA OF SPECIES IN EACH ICES ZONE GIVEN THEM BY THE EC FOR THE
FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1977 (REF B) WOULD HAVE TO SUBMIT THE DATA

NOTED IN PARA 4 REF A TO THE DESIGNATED "RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY" FOR THAT ZONE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE NEEDED LICENSES. EVEN THOUGH LICENSES FOR THE ENTIRE ZONE WILL BE ISSUED BY ONLY ONE STATE, THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATE WHOSE NEW FISHING LIMITS EXTEND INTO THAT ZONE WILL STILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICING ITS AREA TO ASSURE THAT EACH EASTERN EUROPEAN VESSEL ADHERES TO THE QUOTAS SPECIFIED IN ITS LICENSE FOR THE ZONE.

2. SIMMONET POINTED OUT THAT THIS LICENSING TECHNIQUE WOULD GIVE INDIVIDUAL STATES (NOTABLY THE UK AND IRELAND) THE POWER IN THE NAME OF THE COMMUNITY TO ASSURE AN EFFECTIVE PRIOR LICENSING SYSTEM COVERING ALL FISHING IN A LARGE GIVEN AREA, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME AVOIDING THE SUBDIVISION OF THIRD COUNTRY QUOTAS ACCORDING TO NATIONAL ZONES, AN EARLIER BRITISH PROPOSAL STRONGLY OPPOSED BY OTHER MEMBER STATES (PARA 8 REF A). IT WOULD ALSO PERMIT THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD TO APPLY FOR QUOTAS FROM INDIVIDUAL STATES RATHER THAN FROM THE EC COMMISSION AS SUCH BUT STILL WOULD MAINTAIN THE PRINCIPLE OF EC COMPETENCE OVER FISHERY MANAGEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY POND. THE UK HAS RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE COMPETENCE OF A STATE TO ISSUE LICENSES, EVEN IN THE NAME OF THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE AREAS BEYOND THAT COUNTRY'S FISHING ZONE; THE MATTER IS STILL UNDER STUDY BY COMMUNITY LAWYERS BUT THE COMMISSION EXPECTS A FAVORABLE OUTCOME AND THE INCLUSION OF THIS PROCEDURE IN THE EC COUNCIL COMMUNICATION TO THE THREE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES CONCERNED. HINTON

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